

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 013698  
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CPR-01  
PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 /036 R

DRAFTED BY TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE

APPROVED BY EUR:REWING/GW 1/20/77

S/S-O: RPERITO

-----201737Z 117737 /47

O 201724Z JAN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 013698

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GW

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO HELMUT SCHMIDT

1. PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT  
FORD:

BEGIN TEXT JANUARY 19, 1977

DEAR HELMUT:

I WAS DEEPLY TOUCHED BY YOUR KIND AND GENEROUS  
MESSAGE FOLLOWING THE NOVEMBER ELECTION. AS THE WORK  
OF THIS ADMINISTRATION NOW NEARS COMPLETION, I AM  
WRITING TO EXPRESS MY VERY GREAT SATISFACTION IN WHAT WE  
HAVE ACHIEVED.

THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY IS A CLOSE AND TRUE  
FRIEND AND ALLY OF THE UNITED STATES. TOGETHER YOU AND  
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I HAVE HAD THE PLEASURE OF STRENGTHENING AND DEEPENING  
THIS BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. WE HAVE SEEN THE FRIENDSHIP  
BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES GROW, AND WE HAVE SEEN PROGRESS ON  
POLITICAL, DEFENSE AND ECONOMIC ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE  
TO OUR NATIONS, TO THE INDUSTRIALIZED DEMOCRACIES AND  
TO THE TRANS-ATLANTIC COMMUNITY.

AS I STATED IN MY STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS, WE  
HAVE USED MANY AVENUES FOR COOPERATION, AND THE  
FRIENDSHIP OF THE DEMOCRACIES IS DEEPER, WARMER AND  
MORE EFFECTIVE THAN AT ANY TIME IN 30 YEARS.

I AM CONFIDENT IN THE COURSE WE HAVE SET, AND IN  
THE COMING MONTHS I WILL CONTINUE TO SPEAK OUT IN  
SUPPORT OF THE OBJECTIVES OUR TWO COUNTRIES SHARE.  
I CONSIDER YOU A TRUE AND HIGHLY VALUED PERSONAL FRIEND.  
I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN AND TO FURTHERING  
THOSE WARM TIES.

BETTY AND I SEND OUR BEST WISHES TO YOU AND  
MRS. SCHMIDT.

SINCERELY,

GERALD R. FORD

HIS EXCELLENCY  
HELMUT SCHMIDT  
CHANCELLOR OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY  
BONN

END TEXT

2. POUCHED ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW.  
HABIB

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMITY, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 20-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE013698  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770021-1114  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770132/aaaabbur.tel  
**Line Count:** 89  
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**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** f11d61d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3545217  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO HELMUT SCHMIDT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PPDC, GE, US, (FORD, GERALD R), (SCHMIDT, HELMUT)  
**To:** BONN  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009